

Base Ball Today! Dante vs. Big Stone Gap

The Big Stone Gap Post.

VOL. XXIII,

BIG STONE GAP, WISE COUNTY, VA., WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 1915.

No. 19

Campaign Against Forest Fires.

Charlottesville, Va., May 7.—The State Forester is inaugurating a campaign against fires in the woods, in which all citizens are asked to join. The enormous annual destruction by forest fires in Virginia should no longer be tolerated, and a movement is now on foot to bring about a rational solution of the fire problem. The first step is to get warning notices into the hands of people who have timber land to protect or who wish to put them up for the good of the cause. These notices are of three different kinds, and are printed in large letters on heavy cardboard, for posting indoors in stores, postoffices, blacksmith shops, etc., and on cloth for posting outdoors, along the roads and paths in the woods, etc., where anyone traveling through the woods would see them. They explain the State laws, which are strict, and call upon all citizens to be careful not to start a fire, and to put out, if possible, any that they may find burning.

\$500,000 Damage

It is estimated that forest fires burn up \$500,000 worth of property each year, on the average, in Virginia. With the mature timber being rapidly cut off, and worth several times what it was a few years ago, we are evidently approaching a timber famine. Our only salvation is to take care of the young growth, and keep out fire, which can in a few moments destroy the growth of years. Already vast stretches of land, particularly in the mountains, have been burned over so that they are now covered with nothing but brush, and are practically a barren waste, worth nothing to anybody. And every time such lands are burned over, the sprouts become weaker, and the soil becomes poorer and thinner. The decaying leaves and twigs, the humus that makes soil fertile, is entirely burned up by a hot fire, and the fine roots that bind the soil are burned up. Consequently when a heavy rain falls there is nothing to hold the soil, and it washes away and fills up the rivers and harbors with silt. (This silt has to be dredged out at an expense of millions of dollars every year). But the rough, stony, or poor land will produce crops of timber, if fires are kept out.

Cattle Range Injured

There is an impression in some sections that fires improve the cattle range, and many fires are set out in other people's woods by men who want free range for their stock and think burning the woods will improve the range. This is all wrong from every standpoint. In the first place no one has any more right to set fire to someone else's woods than to his house or barn, and in the second place the range is injured and not improved. Fires burn up the litter on the ground, and the decaying leaves and other plant material which constitute the humus. It is this humus that makes the soil black, fertile and porous. Without it, trees and grass cannot get enough food and moisture from the soil to make good growth. The good grasses starve for lack of food and water, and what is left makes very poor range.

What is to be Done

It would take too much space

to describe how game animals and game birds and song birds that are busy all day long devouring injurious insects are killed or driven away by forest fires, and how the springs and streams are drying up and low water and freshets both becoming more severe as a result of forest fires. The question is,—What can be done about it? The State of Virginia is looking for a solution of the problem and already has laws providing fine or imprisonment for setting fire to anyone else's woods. It is also illegal to burn brush without taking all possible precautions against the spread of fire, and redress can be obtained by anyone injured by such a fire. Logging and railroad locomotives, saw mills, etc., are required to carry sufficient spark arresters. And Forest Wardens may be commissioned by the Governor to enforce the fire laws, under the direction of the State Forester, and to fight fires, etc. (A copy of the fire laws will be sent free on request to the State Forester, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.) But unfortunately there has not yet been any money appropriated with which to pay Wardens for enforcing the laws and fighting fires. The next legislature is expected to come to the rescue in this emergency and make it possible to have an effective fire protection organization. In the mean time much good can be accomplished by putting up warning notices and spreading a knowledge of the fire laws arousing interest in fire prevention. These notices can be secured free of charge from the State Forester, at Charlottesville, Va.

Golf Tournament.

The members of the Mountain Golf Club arrived in Bristol from Big Stone Gap, Va., Saturday at noon and were driven to the club house, where luncheon was served by the ladies of the Country Club of Bristol. Immediately after luncheon the play began. There were thirteen matches, twelve being won by the Bristol team and one by the visiting team.

Quite a large number of the club members and their guests enjoyed watching the match games. During the play tea and sandwiches were served.

Last night a large dance was given in honor of the visiting team at the club house. There was dancing until a late hour to splendid music by the Bristol Elite Orchestra.

The players in the men's team from Big Stone Gap were: Captain J. F. Bullitt, Messrs. D. B. Sayers, John Fox, Jr., R. D. Baker, Karl Stoehr, J. W. Gaut, Everett Drennen and H. E. Fox.

The men's team from Bristol numbered Messrs. M. A. Stull, R. F. Armstrong, W. R. White, E. K. Bachman, George Bachman, Irving Whaley, Hiram Sanders, U. B. Preston, W. F. Daniel and W. H. Beckner.

In the ladies' team from the Mountain Golf Club were Miss Julia Bullitt, Miss Sarah Cochran and Mrs. R. L. Parks.

In the ladies' team from Bristol were Mrs. W. O. Came, Miss Brown and Mrs. Irving Whaley. —Bristol Herald Courier.

NOTICE.

Bids will be received until June 5th, 1915, for the construction of a seven room school building at Rye Cove, Va. Plans and specifications may be seen at the school building in Rye Cove after May 17th.

W. J. ROLLINS, Chairman
19 21 of Building Committee.

People Say To Us

"I cannot eat this or that food, it does not agree with me." Our advice to all of them is to take a

Rexall Dyspepsia Tablet
before and after each meal. 25c a box. Kelly Drug Co.

President of Equal Suffrage League of Virginia Visits Big Stone Gap.

Mrs. B. B. Valentine, president of the Equal Suffrage League of Virginia, with headquarters in Richmond, spent several days in the Gap the past week, the honored guest of Hon. and Mrs. Jno. W. Chalkley.

Mrs. Valentine made a short but vital talk at the regular monthly meeting of the Woman's Civic League Friday afternoon in the Odd Fellows' Hall and was an interested listener to the various reports of committees.

Friday night Mrs. Valentine addressed a large and attentive audience in the school auditorium for two hours. Her clear and logical reasoning, backed up by statistics gathered at home and abroad, combined with the charming personality of the speaker, made a most favorable impression, and an astonishing number of prominent citizens signed the petition to the legislature presented at the close of Mrs. Valentine's address, and about thirty-five ladies enrolled as members of the Equal Suffrage League.

At a meeting Saturday morning in the school auditorium a league was formally organized at this place and officers elected. Mrs. Valentine acting as chairman. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Mrs. J. B. Ayers, president; Mrs. Mayo Cabell, first vice president; Mrs. Jno. W. Chalkley, second vice president; Miss Eugenia Baumgardner, secretary, and Mrs. D. B. Sayers, treasurer. Executive committee—The above officers and in addition the following ladies: Mrs. E. E. Goodloe, Mrs. Robt. D. Morrison, Mrs. H. A. W. Skeen and Mrs. Cora Benedict.

The following are the charter members of the Suffrage League here.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Alsever, Mr. L. T. Winston, Mrs. J. P. Wolfe, Mr. and Mrs. Mayo Cabell, Mr. W. D. Fuller, Mrs. Virginia B. Taggart, Miss Elizabeth Borcharding, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Chalkley, Mrs. Sallie A. Bailey, Mrs. Cora Benedict, Mrs. R. D. Morrison, Miss Nemo Vineyard, Miss E. S. Baumgardner, Mrs. W. E. Kilbourn, Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Sayers, Miss Myrtle Wolfe, Mrs. Wade Barrier, Miss Gertrude Hensley, Miss Zolbie Palmer, Miss Allie Nickels, Miss Mattie Nickels, Mr. A. J. Williams, Mrs. S. P. Catron, Mrs. H. A. W. Skeen, Miss Mattie Brown, Miss Myrtle Nickels, Miss Laura Marrs, Miss Edna Catron, Mr. L. O. Pettit, Mrs. D. C. Wolfe, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Ayers, Gen. R. A. Ayers, Miss Julia Bullitt, Miss Kate Brown.

Mrs. Valentine addressed an enthusiastic meeting at Norton Saturday night and organized a league at that place, making a total of sixty-four Equal Suffrage Leagues in the State of Virginia.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury

Mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescription from reputable physicians, as the damage they do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by J. C. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by J. C. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

Sold by Druggists. Price 75c per bottle. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Among those who attended the ball game at Stonegap Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. Drennen, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Taggart, Mr. and Mrs. Conner and daughters, Mrs. J. H. Pieroint and Misses Mary and Elizabeth Conner, Miss Janet Bailey, Mrs. Jerome Wells and son, Robert, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Witt, Robert Ingle, Miss Thelma Baker, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. W. Skeen and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Young, Mrs. Ed Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Blanton, G. N. Knight, Lindsey Horton, Simon Banks, B. F. Smith, Harry Wallace, Robert Bounds, Luther Jesse, R. R. Casper, J. B. Wampler, G. G. McFarran, E. J. Prescott, G. W. Scott, O. C. Bell, Mayo Cabell, H. E. Benedict, R. B. and W. T. Alsever, Sam McCluen and G. D. Jenkins.

Tennis Players

The Cumberland Tennis Club has announced its co-operation with the Big Stone Gap Athletic Association in holding a tennis tournament in Big Stone Gap on July Second. The two courts of the tennis club will be available for the play. For the purpose of selecting the two best players to represent Big Stone Gap in this tournament, play will start this week among the members of the club to develop and establish the standing of senior club members. The grounds committee has listed the following eight men in the order named, as a start in a selection of its representatives:

- 1st—E. Drennen,
- 2nd—L. T. Winston,
- 3rd—R. E. Taggart,
- 4th—G. B. Southward,
- 5th—A. K. Morrison,
- 6th—C. L. Chapman,
- 7th—J. P. Horne,
- 8th—W. T. Alsever.

Any senior member of the club not included in the eight names listed, is privileged at any time to challenge No. 8 for his rank. Such challenge must be accepted by the player ranking No. 8 within a week from its offering, but if the challenger is defeated, he shall not have the privilege of again challenging the same player for the same position until after the lapse of a week's time. If the challenger is successful in dislodging the player from his rank, the player dislodged will not have the privilege of challenging for another match for his position with the player who has defeated him, until the lapse of a week. The player taking position No. 8 may challenge the player for position No. 7, just as explained above when a player without rank challenges the player holding position No. 8. In the same way, any player with a definite position may challenge the player in the position next above him, the same rules for the acceptance of challenge and re-challenging for the same position being effective.

It is hoped that this means of encouraging play among the club members will not only demonstrate the ability of the best players, but will also keep these players continually on their game and prevent their being dislodged by a challenger. It is hoped that all challenges will be accepted on the day presented. The courts of the club will be reserved at all times for any challenge matches when both challengers are on the ground to play.

Later in the season there will be a club tournament in singles and doubles, with prizes offered in both events by the club.

Closing of East Stone Gap School.

Rev. C. W. Dean, of Wise, will preach the baccalaureate sermon of the East Stone Gap high school on next Sunday morning at eleven o'clock. On the Wednesday evening following, May 19th, the closing exercises of the school will take place in the auditorium of the school building. East Stone Gap has a fine school this year under the able management of Prof. Rex, who is one of the ablest educators in Wise county.

In Honor of Visiting Guests.

Last Tuesday afternoon from three-thirty to six o'clock Mrs. Mayo Cabell delightfully entertained with three tables of auction bridge in honor of Mrs. H. W. Miller, the guest of Mrs. Everett Drennen, and Mrs. Richard Fox, the guest of Miss Minnie Fox.

Mrs. R. L. Parks scored highest, winning the prize, a lovely slipper bag. Delightful refreshments were served at the conclusion of the games. The guests present were Mrs. Richard Fox, of Chicago, Mrs. H. W. Miller, of Parkersburg, W. Va., Mrs. R. T. Irvine, Mrs. Marvin Kelly, Mrs. Horace Fox, Mrs. Everett Drennen, Mrs. James Ayers, Mrs. R. L. Parks, Miss Minnie Fox, Miss Mary Ramsey and Miss Eugenia Baumgardner.

THEATRICAL.

By Bus

The Anderson Comedy Company opened their engagement at the Amuzu Monday night to an audience which went away not only satisfied but each and every one glad that they had been there. It is, without question, one of the best shows ever put on at the Amuzu and certainly the best this season. The Anderson family has never failed yet to draw big houses on return dates, and they deserve a good attendance. The show is perfect in cleanliness, not even a suggestion of the "Rough stuff". Baby Drew, the little boy in green is the leading feature of the show, and every person should grasp this opportunity to see and hear him. The public can depend on it that they are not being "Handed" another Buster Doyle, but a real artist in spite of his tender years. The dance Marie Argentine is the best seen on the local stage since "Alma", in fact the dancers are better dancers than those with the Alma show. The last two shows on at the Amuzu have certainly redeemed the house from the black eye which one or two before them gave it. Odor and his dogs was a good act, and shows to what extent the canine brain can be trained by a good master. The show on this week is fit for all classes to see and cannot but be enjoyed. No person loving children, or loving good clean wholesome entertainment should miss seeing the Andersons this week. They are putting on one of their best bills tonight.

Tennis Tournament.

The Big Stone Gap Athletic Association will, in connection with its Fourth of July Celebration this year, hold an Open Tennis Tournament on the courts of the Cumberland Tennis Club at Big Stone Gap. This tournament will be necessarily limited as it is desirable to complete the play in the one day's time. The two new courts of the Cumberland Tennis Club will be in excellent condition for fast tennis, and it is hoped that all tennis clubs and committees, where tennis is enjoyed in Southwest Virginia and Southeast Kentucky, will be represented in the tournament.

By commencing play at 10 o'clock in the morning, with two courts available and reserved for tournament play, it will be possible to complete a tournament in doubles only in the one day. Each city, community or tennis club represented will have the privilege of entering one team. Tournament play will commence on the courts of the Cumberland Tennis Club this week for the selection of the two best players to represent the club in the tournament on the Second of July.

Bristol, Pineville, Norton, Wise, Dante, Jenkins, Keokee, Imboden and other communities in this vicinity have tennis enthusiasts with good playing facilities and have all expressed a desire to meet other representative tennis players in this vicinity in tournament play. The Big Stone Gap Athletic Association has offered the two men of the winning team in this tournament, their selection of any tennis racket on the market, to stimulate interest in competition. An entrance fee of one dollar for each player, or two dollars for each team entered will be charged.

Dinner Party for Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fox.

Wednesday evening Mrs. John Fox, Sr., entertained with an elaborate course dinner in honor of her son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fox, of Chicago.

The guests present were Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Irvine, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Chalkley, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Drennen, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Fox and Miss Eugenia Baumgardner.

Bare Feet and Health.

Boys Need Protection From Hookworm Disease During Season of Greatest Exposure.

Richmond, Va., May 7.—The bare footed boy is all right in fiction but, if he is to be protected from hookworm disease, he must enjoy his sports and acquire his stone bruises on a farm where sewage disposal is well regulated, according to officers of the State Board of Health.

"It is a well known fact," says the board in its weekly bulletin given out today, "that much of the hookworm infection in the State is due to the almost universal custom of allowing children to go barefooted. The hookworm larvae, which hatch in the ground, find lodgement in the skin of the feet and work their way into the body. For the protection of children and for the full enjoyment of the bare-footed season, soil pollution should be stopped and sewage disposal should be safe. The agencies which spread hookworm are those which spread typhoid and upon their improvement, more than upon anything else depends the sanitary betterment of the South. The sanitary outhouse is the one great insurance policy against the diseases of the summer."

Appalachia Items

Messdames Ed King, O. T. Smith, Misses Lora and Brownie McKenzie, Miss Josephine Hamilton and Messrs. E. E. Givens and Warren Mitchell spent Sunday at Natural Tunnel.

Miss Ruth Lichliter spent Saturday and Sunday with Norton friends.

Miss Pearl Coffey visited at Pardee Saturday and Sunday.

Oliver Bergren, who has just returned from school at Harrogate, is visiting Dr. and Mrs. Cochran, of New York City.

Mrs. M. J. Hoff, who has been visiting in Richmond, returned Saturday night. Her many friends are glad to have her back.

Miss Belle Breedlove, of Pardee, is visiting friends here.

Messdames E. C. Mainous and Lazarus Mainous are visiting relatives in Scott county.

Quite a crowd attended the ball game Saturday between Big Stone Gap and Stonegap. O. L. Maddox was quite sick last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Mannekin passed through Appalachia Friday en route for their future home in Pineville, Ky.

Mrs. E. L. Crizer spent Wednesday at Norton.

Dance Given in Honor of Miss Florence McCormick.

Miss Virginia Wright gave a delightful dance last Thursday evening at her home in honor of her guest, Miss Florence McCormick.

Mrs. Wright, assisted by her guest, Mrs. J. L. McCormick, of Big Stone Gap, served punch in the dining room. Music was furnished by a Victrola and the guests danced on the veranda until a late hour. Delicious ices and cake was served them by Messdames Wright, Swisher and McCormick.

Those enjoying Miss Wright's hospitality were Misses Florence McCormick, Frances Miles, Brownie Delp, Evelyn Lyle, Helen Bullard, Mrs. J. L. McCormick, Mrs. Jack Swisher, Mrs. T. M. Combs, Messrs. Pollard, Thomas Jones, Ford Trolinger, Robert and Mack Harvey, Walter Hood and Henry Roberts.—Radford correspondent of Roanoke Times.